

GREENOUGH RIVER SOLAR FARM

The Greenough River Solar Farm is a 47 MW DC project located near Geraldton WA comprising of Stage 1 and Stage 2 Construction phases.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

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Greenough River Solar Farm (Stage 1, 10MW) was the first utility-scale PV project in Australia, commissioned in late 2012.

The second stage of Greenough River project (Stage 2, 37MW) was originally announced in November 2017 and RCR Tomlinson was appointed to Head Contractor Role. However, in the wake of RCR Tomlinson's collapse at the end of 2018, the project came to a standstill.

Following an extensive process associated with RCR Tomlinson's administration and liquidation, the developer (Bright Energy Investments) signed a new contract with the German EPC, juwi Renewable Australia Pty Ltd for the project completion.

Stage 1 supplies power to the WA Water Corporation, Bright Energy Investments has signed a PPA with power retailer Synergy Consulting Renewable Power Sector for the off-take of Stage 2.

Tranex Solar Pty Ltd installed over 300,000 of First Solar modules on NEXTracker, Inc single-axis trackers. A significant amount of rectification works were also undertaken due to the fact the project was still in construction phase when RCR entered administration.

This project now provides the energy needs for around 16,300 average Western Australian households.

Tranex Solar Pty Ltd remains the most trusted solar contractor in Australia, known for completing every project we have started.

PROJECT STATISTICS



LOCATION

Approx 70km East of Geraldton, WA



SIZE

37.00MW DC



OUR SERVICES

Pre-Drilling , Piling, Mechanical Installation, Module Installation and System Rectification



SINGLE AXIS TRACKING SYSTEM

 nexttracker
A Flex Company



MODULES

 First Solar.



NUMBER OF PILES

7,574 New Piles / Rectification of 6,745



NUMBER OF TRACKERS

1289 Trackers



NUMBER OF MODULES

309,360



PROJECT CHALLENGES

Project build was approximately 22% Completed when RCR entered administration. This presented a significant challenge, as Tranex Solar Pty Ltd was presented with very little QA documentation for the existing project build, and due to the project sitting idle for nearly 2 years with little or no documentation recovered from the administrators.

Most existing system parts had been moved to legacy and where not freely available from Manufacturers, who were now only storing these parts mainly for O & M purposes, hence obtaining significant quantities of these parts presented a challenge.

Also, approximately 50% of the project required 'Pre-Drilling' due to ground conditions, including rectification of some Piles already installed using a different Pre-Drilling option.



OUR SOLUTIONS

TranEx Solar Pty Ltd entered very significant planning sessions with the EPC (juwi Renewable Australia Pty Ltd) approx 2 months before the Construction phase of the project started. This included mobilising Key Project personnel to site for reconnaissance visits to detail and extensively define the scope to work off from a base level and to QA existing build items to understand the detail of the rectification works required.

From this scope, discussions were had with relevant suppliers and material providers regarding existing system parts, and Tranex Solar Pty Ltd and juwi Renewable Australia Pty Ltd were able to leverage our considerable joint industry knowledge and contacts to ensure these parts were secured in a timely manner to ensure the construction program was not compromised at all.

Tranex Solar Pty Ltd then defined and then implemented strict SOP (Standard Operating Procedures) for installation of these items and measured productivity / site personnel from the SOP's to ensure that the project construction program was maintained.

Our In-house Drill-Rig was also mobilised to site, to ensure that piling works could continue to proceed in a timely manner and any rectification work could be addressed with right plant and equipment for the project.

OUR PARTNERS



DEVELOPER: Bright Energy Investments



EPC: juwi Renewable Australia Pty Ltd

QUOTE FROM OUR CLIENT

“ Great company to work with – This is a tough industry and there are not a lot of companies that I would recommend, but Tranex Solar is in the top tier of contractors in this industry. ”

B.Rafferty - Project Manager